

Unlicenced Producers of Lubricants and Greases

7194. SHRI FAQUIR ALI ANSARI:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM,
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unlicenced producers of lubricants and greases in the country;

(b) whether it has been established that the sub-standard and spurious products marketed by these producers are playing havoc with the sophisticated machinery and equipment; and

(c) the firm step taken by Government to curb the activities of these unlicenced producers of lubricants and greases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILI-
ZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISH-
RA): (a) The information is not
available with the Government.

(b) and (c). Substandard and spurious lubricants if used in sophisticated machinery and equipment will cause damage but the extent to which this is taking place is not known. However, to prevent this and ensure proper quality of the lubricants the following steps are taken/contemplated.

2. The State Governments/U.T. Administrations have been advised to invoke the powers available with them under the Indian Penal Code and deal severely with adulterators of petroleum products.

3. Apart from initiating follow-up action on the measures suggested by an expert panel set up by the Government to look into the problem of adulteration/misuse of lubricants Government have prescribed a scheme of discipline in regard to distribution of lubricants which is required to be implemented by all the major oil companies. The oil companies have

been conducting surprise checks on their retail outlets/agents with a view to ensuring that there are no malpractices in distribution of lubricants through their outlets. The oil companies have also been asked to increasingly take up direct sales to all the major consumers. Some of the further steps being contemplated with the objective of minimising the circulation of spurious lubricants are set out below:

- (i) Government propose to make use of the ISI mark mandatory for all manufacturers of automotive oils, industrial oils and greases. The details in this regard are being worked out in consultation with the ISI and other concerned organisations.
- (ii) stricter control has been prescribed over allocation of feedstocks for the purpose of lube manufacture. The idea is to ensure proper accountal of feedstock releases as related to the output of the end-product.
- (iii) The oil companies have been asked to eliminate intermediaries and prevent multiplication of agencies engaged in lube distribution so as not to weaken effective control by the oil companies over their operations.
- (iv) The oil companies have been asked to launch a major publicity drive to bring about greater consumer awareness and involvement.
- (v) Specifically in regard to the activity of re-refining of used lubricants which is potentially a major source for adulteration of lubricants decisions have recently been taken to introduce a scheme for voluntary registration of re-refiners who fulfil the basic quality

criteria and possess the requisite facilities including in-process quality controls.

4. An Industry Group is presently engaged in the task of evaluating in depth the problems in this field including the specific aspects of the adequacy of the existing laws for curbing the activities of manufacturers of spurious lubricants. They have been asked to come up to the Ministry with definite and concrete suggestions for implementation.

Availability of Molasses and its Utilisation

7195. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the current availability of molasses in the country and how much of it is utilised by (1) Industries manufacturing wines and liquors (2) Industrial alcohol and (3) by paints, spirit varnish and other companies;

(b) what are the plans of utilising molasses production with the progressive implementation of Prohibition policy by the Government; and

(c) how many new licences would be given for producing Industrial Alcohol and whether such industries would be set up in rural areas near sugarcane producing zones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The current availability of molasses in the country is of the order of approximately 22 lakh tonnes per annum. About one lakh tonnes of molasses is utilised for cattle feed and fodder and other miscellaneous uses like tobacco curing. The remaining quantity of molasses is used in the distilleries for the production of ethyl alcohol (rectified spirit). About 70 per cent of the rectified spirit is

utilised for industrial purposes and the remaining 30 per cent is used for manufacturing potable liquors.

(b) Government are encouraging the setting up of further alcohol based industries.

(c) The distillery capacity should match the availability of molasses. The distilleries are established within an economic distance from the sugar factories.

Demand for New Division with H.Q. at Rourkela

7196 SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any demand to establish a new Division with Head Quarters at Rourkela by reorganising the existing Bilaspur, Chakradharpur, Waltair, and Khurda Road Division in a rational manner to achieve optimum operational efficiency; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon and the probable period of its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) The demand was carefully considered but was not found acceptable on administrative, operational and economic grounds

Representation for Howrah Coach upto Gandhidham

7197 SHRI ANANT DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people of Kutch and passenger association are writing to Railway authority for the extension of Howrah Coach upto Gandhidham which at present comes up to Viramgam.

(b) why this Howrah Bogle is not extended up to Gandhidham; and